

From the Editor

Howdy to everyone -

Well, in ten days we'll be in the middle of Field Day 2013. A bit of a different twist this year in that the venue will be the W7DK clubhouse instead of out in the woods and wilds. Part of the overall plan this year is to take advantage of Field Day activities to test the operation of the stations using emergency power. Lots of remodeling has been done to the clubhouse, and an evaluation of the suitability of the power distribution setup is needed.

There will be lots of opportunities to see a variety of modes of operation during the event. And if you haven't ever participated in a Field Day, it's a great opportunity to learn and practice a variety of radio skills. Be sure to stop by, have some fun, lend a hand, or bring a guest and introduce them to our club and our many fine members and functions.

On a personal note, I want to express my gratitude to about a dozen W7DK Club Members for helping me achieve Centurion Status last month with the Straight Key Century Club. The award is made after completing 100 different contacts using CW and non-electronic keyers. It's hard for me to believe that just over a year ago I was struggling along in the Ninja code class facilitated by Rich KR7W and Randy WB4SPB. Thanks to both of you, and others that gave me their numbers during QSOs - the two Bobs KE7WPK & AD7WU, Al N7OMS, Pete KK7QW, Chuck AC7QN, Harry N7DOE and the club numbers for W7DK and W7OS. I couldn't have done it without you.

OK, enough babbling from me so I can get this issue off to my steadfast proofreader and get it published.

See you at Field Day June 22 & 23! Rain or shine.



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1 May 2013 Board Meeting Notes

The 1 May 2013 Radio Club of Tacoma Board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma..

Officers and board members present:

Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board Member	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board Member	Al Ferguson N7OMS
Board Member	Glen Galati KA7BOJ

There were 8 names on the attendance roster

No Quorum: Since we failed to have the required five Board Members we lacked a quorum, and formal business could not be conducted.

Minutes: These notes were created only to document the discussion topics addressed by those present.

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Morel Guyot SK 22 April

SECRETARY'S REPORT: KD4VOM No Report;

TREASURER'S REPORT: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Larry KD4VOM

Roster is ready, but the Membership Booklet is proving to be difficult.

RCT Information Technology Committee: – Randy Myers WB4SBP

There was a brief discussion on the best arrangement of our computers. There seemed to be a consensus to move the computer in the classroom upstairs to support Club administration.

Property Management: No report - However it was noted that the Property Management Team is planning a Members Only Auction.

The Property Management Internet /EBay sales account requires Board approval of the authorization of the two new account managers for the Bank.

E-Bay is also asking for documented proof of the Club's Nonprofit status. The Secretary will provide the documentation required.

Planning Committee Report: Larry KD4VOM

Progress Summary:

The Planning team is wading through several years of Board extracts relative to Facilities Management, Repeater, and HF Operations

and hopes to field a boiled down straw-man list with notional priorities and budget estimates to facilitate discussion and hopefully result in an agreed on plan and budget for the Club/

HF and Repeater Operations:

Repeater Operations: No Report

Nick K7MO announced that WWARA coordination has been successful to establish repeater VHF/UHF remote control of our repeaters

HF Operations: No Report

UHF/VHF MA40 Tower: Antennas have been mounted, transmission lines and rotor control cabling are in progress. It appears the winch issue has been resolved.

Facilities Management: No Report

Training:

Next Technician Class is scheduled for this weekend, June 8/9.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**Hamfest:**

RCT Hamfest: No change, no bill

Emergency Operations Plan: KD4VOM No Report

NEW BUSINESS:**DISCUSSION TOPICS:**

Field Day: There was a discussion of what is needed for Field Day planning presuming we have agreed on Field Day at the Clubhouse.

ADJOURNED

General Meeting Notes
8 May 2013

The 8 May 2013 General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . Vice President Casey WY7V called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President	Casey Hicks WY7V
Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board	James Mendenhall KE6WHN

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 34 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by Vice President Casey WY7V

INTRODUCTIONS: Guest and Self introductions were completed; those with new calls were introduced.

Visitors Dennis Reanier, W7UBA past president of the Radio Club of Tacoma and Bill Harris K7KXB current President of the Highline Amateur Radio Club were welcomed.

Bill invited all to attend their Swapmeet/hamfest on 24 August at 2045 216th St, Des Moines, WA 98198.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: Morel Guyot W6LIX became a Silent Key on 22 April. He will be missed by us all.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Newsletters
Bank Statements
Utility Bills
Membership Renewals

TREASURER: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Training: The next Technician's Class 8/9 June

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Field Day: Recent meetings and discussions have resulted in a decision to hold Field Day this year at the Clubhouse. For more information on the ARRL Field Day Rules, here is a link: <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2013/2013-FD-Packet-V3.pdf>

Field Day: Mike Scott KB7MS announced that Bates Technical College Ham Club K7BTC will be operating for Field Day on their campus. Mike invited folks to participate or just come on down and visit. Plenty of room, even for tents. AC7QI will be taking his 75 meter rig to participate with the Bates crew....

PROGRAM: "Something about APRS" Rich KR7W provided a detailed orientation to the Amateur Position/Packet Reporting System, used by many Hams for enjoyment, tracking hiking safety, and in support of Emergency Communications. Rich provided background, equipment, technical information and supporting software information.

SHOW AND TELL: Mike K7STO passed around an antenna feed point connection/balun similar to the one in last meeting's video. .

TUNING AND TRAFFIC: None reported

DOOR PRIZES: A soldering iron was won by Mike W7MWF and an LCD clock was won by Rich Manson N7ANF

RAFFLE PRIZE: A Swan desk mike was won by Casey WY7V

ADJOURNED:

General Meeting Notes
22 May 2013

The 22 May 2013 General Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . Secretary Larry Watson KD4VOM called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Secretary	Larry Watson KD4VOM
Board	Bruce Hanson WE7P
Board	James Mendenhall KE6WHN
Board	Al Ferguson N7OMS

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached to the original copy of these minutes. There were 30 names on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Was led by Secretary Larry KD4VOM

INTRODUCTIONS: Guest and Self introductions were completed; those with new calls were introduced. Greta KF7KSW recently upgraded to General, and Ken KC7CUU reports his new call.

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY: N7ANF reported former member Russ Donahue KC7EKI was laid up by a serious accident; David Andresen W7HTJ's XYL is recovering from an illness. Greta reports that Gretchen, KE7FPE is recovering from gall bladder surgery. Stephen Morton AD7AB has recently received welcome news of recovery from several medical issues.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Newsletters
Bank Statements
Utility Bills
Membership Renewals

TREASURER: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Training: The next Technician's Class 8/9 June

VE Report: For John AC7WW by KD4VOM Tuesday May 14, 2013. Once again, more Candidates showed up for testing at the clubhouse than were expected. Seven Volunteers Examiners graded nineteen elements from eleven Candidates. Six new Technicians joined the ranks of the Amateur Service. One Candidate upgraded to Extra by passing element four. Two Candidates passed element 2 and 3 to become General and one Candidate passed elements 2, 3 and 4 to become an Extra. One Candidate failed to obtain an initial license.

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort.

Joe, W7RQ	Steve, AD7VL
Dale, N3MO	Jon, AD7AW
Rich, KK7VH	Stephen, AD7AB

The next monthly scheduled testing session will be Tuesday June 11, 2013.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Field Day: N7OMS: Field Day this year will be conducted at the Club's clubhouse facility.

There will be the usual Field Day Kitchen, pot luck, and "Loggers Breakfast", on Saturday and Sunday.

Field Day Operations and logging orientation and training available Saturday the 28th and June 8th at the Clubhouse.

Here's a link to the ARRL Field Day Booklet and rules: <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2013/2013-FD-Packet-V3.pdf>

Property Management: Members Only Auction for a Linear Amplifier

Meeting Refreshments: Mike W7XTZ reports that he and Maury decided to turn some of the excess refreshments money into the club treasury.

Special Service Event: Rainer to Ruston run. They need Ham Radio Operators, Contact me or check out the ARES District 5 website, or Rob Wiggins K7KXO

PROGRAM: "5A7A, a Lybian DXpedition (2005)"

SHOW AND TELL: None reported

TUNING AND TRAFFIC: Al AC7BU reported on his recent exploration of remote operations with W7IJ Bill Rohrer

DOOR PRIZES: Mike K7STO picked up a soldering iron, while K7SSS Jim picked up a volt-ohm meter.

RAFFLE PRIZE: None tonight.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm



Rich KR7W hard at work rewiring the feedline for the 440 MHz beam that sits atop the newly erected tower on the North side of the W7DK Clubhouse

**Submitted by Al N7OMS**

Field Day 2013 which will be June 22nd and 23rd will be a bit different this year. We will be holding the event at the Radio Club of Tacoma's club house. There are many reasons this decision was made. One of the most compelling ones is that The Prez Gary WG7X wants it that way. He has been an advocate of having Field Day at the Club house for several years. Of course as soon as the choice was made his job demands have imposed travel for most of the month of June to AL7 land - including the weekend of Field Day. Sorry Mr. Prez.

Another reason is in part due to the changes that have been happening to the Club House in the past year or so. The Lou Room remodel was just the beginning of the changes that space has seen. We now have a new tower with beams for 6 meters, 2 meters and 440. The Lou Room stations also have access to the club's other antennas. Yes I said stations plural. For Field Day we have setup a second location that will support HF bands. Another part is an attempt to power the radios using a power system that was installed years ago but with all the remodeling that has been going on no one is really sure what the status of that system is. There have also been equipment changes in the various stations around the club house. Some features and configurations were designed and installed with emergency operations in mind.

Field Day is many things to Hams and their families, but it is foremost an emergency preparedness exercise. That is another reason behind this year's W7DK's Field Day being at the club house. As members of the Radio Club of Tacoma it is important for us to understand just what the club is capable of if or when an emergency were to strike this region. The group that has come together to prepare the club house for this year's Field Day have already learned much about the status of our preparedness. We will use these lessons to improve the Club's ability to respond if called upon to help.

Much about Field Day will remain the same. As this is a Saturday there will be coffee and donuts in the morning. Jan and Dave will also be cooking hot dogs and chili for lunch. Saturday evening the Field Day potluck will be from 05:30-07:00 in which the club will provide hamburgers, beans and the fixings for the burgers. Sunday will be the Loggers Breakfast from 7-9. We plan to have 3 HF stations running for the 24 hour period and a VHF/UHF station will be in the Lou Room. Logging will be done using N3FJP and the stations will be networked together for master logging capability. It is also in the works to have all modes usable at each of the HF stations. This will be a chance to see what works and what needs work which is very much in the spirit of Field Day.

We won't be having signup sheets to schedule operators, but if there is not an empty space and you wish to make some Q's just ask around and we will make it happen. There will be a shelter outside and the goal will be to have the social side of things outside so we can try to control the noise level around the stations. There will be space for people to observe but with the understanding that operators are trying to focus on the task of putting contacts in the log.

If you have questions please use your inside voice and ask someone other than the person at the rig unless they invite questions. We have a very basic plan of attack to utilize the stations and antennas. One of the goals will be to operate digital modes, tentatively during the first part of the even hours to scan the digital segments of the bands. We see evidence that digital modes will be having an increasing role in emergency communications and we need to be part of that change if we wish to continue to be a communication asset during emergencies.

One drawback of having Field Day at the club house is the limited parking. So call around to your club friends and setup some car pools. There is a really good chance that the club house will be open the entire 24 hour period so don't be afraid of stopping by in the evening. You might have a better chance of finding parking and an empty seat in front of a club station. If you have not been by the club house in a while this would be your chance to see some of the changes that have taken place. I know some are disappointed that we will not be "in the field" but sometimes change can be a good thing. Or just think of this as having Field Day in the fort you built in your parent's backyard as a small tyke.

Please join your fellow W7DKians on June 22nd and 23rd and help make this year's Field Day a resounding success.

A chilling reminder of the monsoonal weather during the 2012 W7DK Field Day is captured by Connie as she snapped a photo of John AC7WW fending off the liquid sunshine. Rainstorms shouldn't be an issue at this year's Field Day at the Clubhouse.



Invite a Kid to Field Day

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

If you've been around ham radio for any length of time, you'll notice that ham radio operators like to complain. One of the most frequently heard complaints is, "Kids aren't interested in amateur radio anymore." While I'm not so sure that's true, I do know that now is the time for you to do something about it.

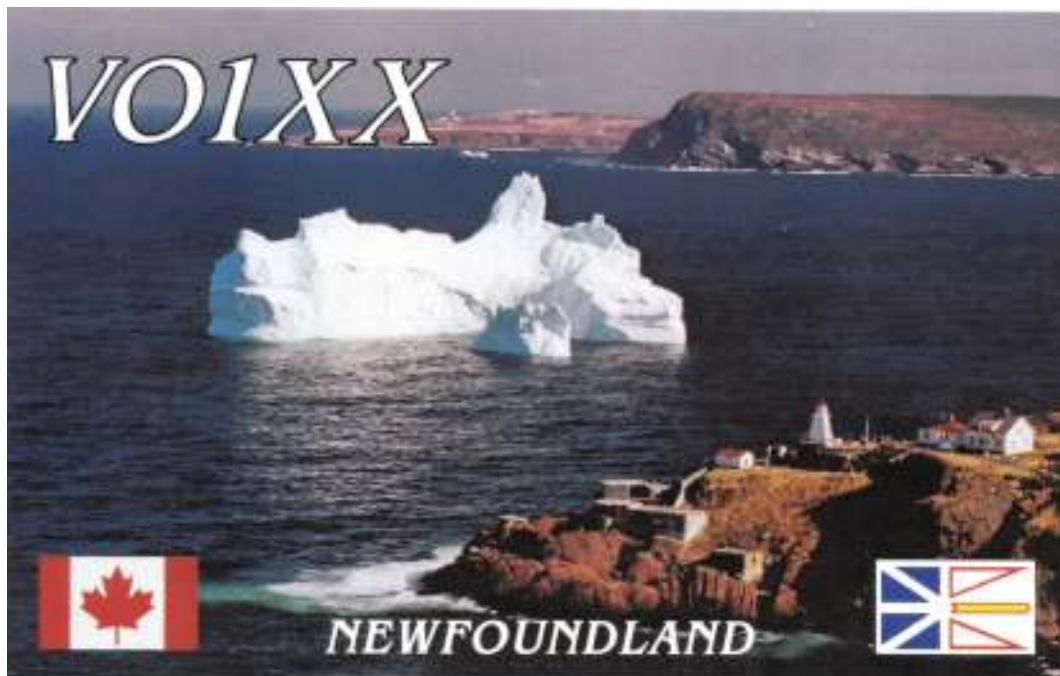
How? Invite a kid to Field Day.

Invite them to help you set up antennas.

Show them how you power the rigs with a generator, or even cooler, by charging a battery with a solar panel.

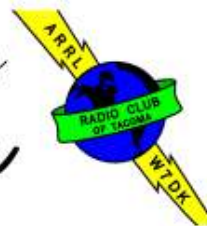
Let them sit in front of the rig, show them how to make contacts, and log for them. To make it easier for them, make up a cheat sheet with the callsign spelled out phonetically and the exchange, also spelled out phonetically.

Another unique QSL card from Harry N7DOE. Thanks again Harry for your generosity in sharing items from your collection.





The Radio Club of Tacoma's
Logger's Bark



The Logger's Bark is the **OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA...** and is published by W7DK Press, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98411, phone: 253-759-2040.

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The Fine Print: The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: www.w7dk.org. If a condensed paper copy is needed... then let the Printer/Publisher listed above know.

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is \$30 per calendar year. \$25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5

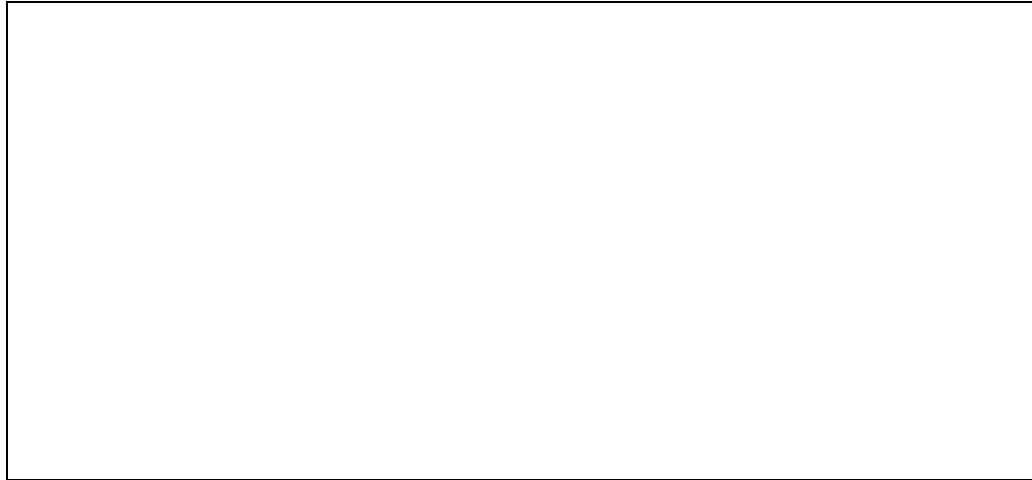
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5

Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

Remember - For the latest and most current information on events and activities, visit the Radio Club of Tacoma Website w7dk.org. Be sure to enroll as a member to see all the info.

The Loggers Bark
Radio Club of Tacoma
PO Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

To RCT Member:



Upcoming RCT Events

CLUB MEETINGS: Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting: First Wednesday of the month at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome to attend .

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz .